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INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: The Russian-speaking group in the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs come from northern Manchuria or Peiping. They are not at the moment particularly influential because of strained relations between the USSR and China. However, in the event that the relations between China and the USSR improve, the influence of this group in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will increase. This raises the question of how far its members will go to effect an improvement in relations between China and the USSR.)

25X1A 1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs regards the white Russians with considerable disfavor and in general agrees with the Soviet Government on this point, although both the Ministries of Interior and of National Defense show considerable partiality toward white Russians. [REDACTED] Comment: It is doubtful that the Foreign Office attitude is due to numerous protests of the USSR, for a question of appeasement of the USSR would be decided on the Executive Yuan level and would be reflected in a uniform attitude in all ministries. It is further doubtful that the Executive Yuan would adopt a policy of appeasement in view of the number of grievances which the Government has against the USSR.)

2. The following incidents indicate some Chinese extraofficial friendliness toward the Soviets:

- a. Mr. WEN of the Chinese Foreign Ministry prevented an open inquiry into the suicide of N. Shastin, who jumped from the Soviet repatriation ship S. S. Gogol, by quietly facilitating an early departure of the ship before the inquiry could be held.
- b. The head of the office of foreign census registration received a Chinese New Year gift from Mr. Sayadian, the head of Asia Films, shortly after having been introduced to him at a party arranged by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. WEN, referred to in paragraph 2, commended this Chinese official warmly to Mr. Sayadian.

25X1A c. At the time of the Chinese Government investigations into alleged illegal business activities of Soviet merchant Roman Abel, his Swiss partner Gut, and Soviet merchant Shlau, Soviet officials protested the matter in Nanking but were rebuffed. [REDACTED] However, local representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs interested themselves in the investigation and Soviet consular officials were invited to participate.

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